

The Web Means the End of Forgetting
Guided Analysis/Reflection

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Name: _____

Analysis Questions:

These are mainly to make sure you're paying attention, and yes, they go in order.

1. The judge who rejected Stacy Snyder's defense said that she was a "public employee whose photo didn't relate to matters of public concern" and thus her "Drunken Pirate" photo was not protected by free speech. Using what you know about the First Amendment, explain this ruling.

From what I know about the First Amendment, she was not protected by it because since she is in the public eye everything she does is going to be known and monitored.

2. What percentage of US recruiters have rejected applicants based on what they have found online?

70% of US recruiters have rejected applicants based on they have found online.

3. How many pieces of content does the average Facebook user create each month?

The average facebook user uses about 70 pieces of content a month.

4. What do you think about the Library of Congress' decision to permanently store the entire archive of Twitter posts since 2006? Explain.

Honestly I don't mind, it will help future generations understand our generation a lot more. It's almost like a digital time capsule for anyone in the future. Each year will be slowly broken down day by day and will show how life was per day instead of per year or per decade.

5. What does the Manhattan woman mean when she says "You have movie-star issues and you're just a person?"

What the woman means is that you're going to be scrutinized for what you wear, what you post, or what you do. Anyone can see what you do and may use it against much like what happened to Stacy.

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6. Explain the premise of Viktor Mayer-Schonberger's book, Delets: The Virtue of Forgetting in the Digital Age".

The premise of the book is that, we as humans always and will always evolve, however we forget about our past mistakes. With the new digital age, evolving will be a difficult task since we cannot forget what we post on the Internet. Simply "forgiving will be an undertaking."

7. How did the discovery of America/Western Expansion lead to the idea of self-redefinition?

The discovery of America lead to the idea of self-redefinition because since they are in a new world, there is no such thing as social hierarchy or social status.

8. How did the internet originally allow people to reinvent themselves? Why is that no longer possible?

The internet originally allowed people to reinvent themselves by creating a new user name or even joining a new chat room however since the rise of social networks we have many different identities.

9. Explain the theories behind the "constitutional right to oblivion" and the campaign to "reinvent forgetting on the Internet."

The theories behind both campaigns are lead by privacy issues. Both advocate for a legislative or technological way of forgetting things on the Internet.

10. What can you do if someone has posted something negative about you on Wikipedia?

You can petition to the site either to remove it or to make less emphasis on the particular subject.

11. What do companies like Reputation Defender do? (Give details)

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Companies like Reputation Defender promise to clean up your online image, will monitor your online reputation, contact Web sites individually and ask them to take down offending items. In addition, with the help of the kind of search-optimization technology that businesses use to raise their Google profiles, ReputationDefender can bombard the Web with positive or neutral information about its customers, either creating new Web pages or by multiplying links to existing ones to ensure they show up at the top of any Google search.

12. Describe the theory behind Reputation Bankruptcy.

The theory behind "Reputation Bankruptcy" is that if you are being judged by what you have posted online you can delete everything you have done and start over again.

13. Even though California has laws that "broadly prohibit employers from discriminating against employees for legal off-duty conduct," why might employers still be able to discriminate?

Employers still might be able to discriminate since they will not disclose the real reasons why they did not hire you.

14. What do you think of Mayer-Schoenberger's theory of having "expiration dates for data"?

I think that it's a wonderful idea. It puts an end or solves the problem, however many people post things to the Internet so they won't get deleted or they won't forget about them.

15. Complete the sentence: At more than 5,000 words, Facebook's privacy policy is longer than....

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the U.S. Constitution.

16. What percentage of 18-22 year-olds believe that there should be laws that require stored information to be deleted about individuals?

About 88% of 18-22 year olds believe there should be laws that require information to be deleted about individuals.

17. What do establishments like Milk and Honey make members promise? What is your opinion of this?

Establishments like Milk and Honey have members promise never to post what they are doing or post pictures of the bar. I like the idea although I hope it doesn't catch on.

18. Explain Acquisti's conclusions about the "decay time" of good and bad information.

Acquisti's conclusion about the "decay of time" of good and bad things is that information that is positive like winning a prize will not last for 10 years, but getting arrested for drunk driving will be talked about for 10 years.

19. What is "Mail Goggles"? What do you think about services like this?

"Mail Goggles" is a Gmail service that operates late on weekend nights and it prevents against sending drunk emails at night. In my opinion this is a good first step in preventing embarrassment for an individual especially those who drink a lot or party all the time.

20. According to the studies, how close are people in real life to their Facebook profiles? Why do you think this is?

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According to studies people are nothing like who they are on facebook like they are in person. This is true because it's easier to type something than it is to say something in person, there is less effort.

Reflection Questions:

Answer in AT LEAST 250 words per question.

The first two are mandatory. Select two from the second group as well.

Mandatory Questions:

You must answer both.

1. This article uses the story of Stacy Snyder as a reference to make many of its main points. Choose three points and explain how they relate to Stacy's story.
2. Look yourself up on Spokeo or Pipl. Go ahead and Google yourself as well. How much information could you find? What do you think about the information about that's available about you to anyone who knows your name?

Other Reflections:

Choose two. Your responses must explicitly refer to the multiple parts of the text in order to count for credit.

- Respond to this quote: "The fact that the Internet never seems to forget is threatening, at an almost existential level, our ability to control our identities; to preserve the option of reinventing ourselves and starting anew; to overcome our checkered pasts."
- Respond to this quote: "Now the worst thing you've done is often the first thing everyone knows about you."
- According to this article, why is the idea of reinventing ourselves so important?
- What do you think of the author's prediction that "People will be able to snap a cellphone picture of a stranger, plug the images into Google and pull up all tagged and untagged photos of that person that exist on the web."
- Respond to this quote: "Employers would be able to use social-network aggregator services to identify people's book and movie preferences and even Internet-search terms, and then fire or refuse to hire them on that basis."
- Respond to this quote: "Many people aren't worried about false information posted by others—they're worried about true information they've posted about themselves when it is taken out of context or given undue weight."

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- This article contains a lot of information about Facebook/Mark Zuckerberg. Contrast this information with the impression of Mr. Zuckerberg that you got from watching "The Social Network."
- Respond to this quote: "In addition to exposing less for the Web to forget, it might be helpful for us to explore new ways of living in a world that is slow to forgive."
- Respond to this quote: "Privacy protects us from being unfairly judged out of context on the basis of snippets of private information that have been exposed against our will; but we can be just as unfairly judged out of context on the basis of snippets of public information that we have unwisely chosen to reveal to the wrong audience."
- Respond to this quote: "If we can't control what others think or say or view about us, we can control our own reaction to photos, videos, blogs, and Twitter posts that we feel unfairly represent us."
- Respond to this quote: "Our character, ultimately, can't be judged by strangers on the basis of our Facebook and Google profiles; it can be judged by only those who know us and have time to evaluate our strengths and weaknesses, face to face and in context, with insight and understanding."

1. In the article that I just read Stacy Snyder was a huge topic of debate. One point in which she was referred to was the quote by the woman in Manhattan. It was a perfect example of gossip, a young girl who is doing candid things after work is put in the limelight. Stacy is just a normal person who is being put to trial just by something so meaningless. Only movie stars get that kind of attention. Another point that she can be applied to is Reputation Bankruptcy in where she could have deleted the picture or anything that was offensive. It would have worked out perfectly for Stacy since the career she was pursuing is one where role models are a must. The last point that could be applied to Stacy is Milk and Honey's policies on posting the functions of the bar. Stacy got in trouble because she was photographed getting drunk and partying in a bar, if Stacy went to a bar that had those kind of policies she would have never had any of the troubles she had and she would probably be teaching right now. These points all connect to Stacy's situation. Early in the article it was talking about how Stacy's situation will go down in history as a prime example of never forgetting what you post online. I believe that if we as a society don't put an end to this it could compromise our future. Future presidential candidates will be haunted by their post when they were just adolescents.

2. I could not find any information about myself on Spokeo probably since I am underage but I did find information about myself on Pipl. On Pipl was I able to find my old MySpace profile and the broadcasts I made my freshmen year when the broadcast program began. Although it was only a little bit of information it still gives me goosebumps. Anyone can find me and use the stuff I have said and posted. I know it'll get worse when I'm older and I'll have to watch what I say but in the mean time I should just take advantage of the underage laws and liabilities. I did show my family members the site and they were shocked because my extended is not really tech savvy. They said that the Internet can be used for entertainment purposes and it can be used for illegal purposes that you can see on the news. Although I believe they are paranoid over this, they do make a point in how people make take advantage of this kind of website. As technology progresses, criminals will get smarter and my use this as a way of breaking or entering or even doing harm. For example if a acquaintance of yours knows you're going to be out of town for the weekend they can search you online and my break and enter your home to steal your belongings. It may be an outrageous thought but it's highly possible. One more example is for teachers, students have the capabilities to find out where they live.

3. "According to this article, why is the idea of reinventing ourselves so important?"

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According to the article the idea of reinventing yourself is important because it's a way of forgiveness and starting over again. In the article it explained the pilgrimage to the West and how it wiped social hierarchy and how it caused other people to take on new lives. All of this is important because it causes evolving and a progression in society. If we are able to forgive and forget we can move on faster than and build off of it, however if we hold onto grudges and things much like that we can progress and move forward. All of this was explained in Viktor Mayer-Schonberger's book, Delets: The Virtue of Forgetting in the Digital Age which presents the argument that the Internet will never forget what we post and how we should change this. In my opinion reinventing yourself is a natural process. We reinvent ourselves in every stage of our lives, from a baby to a toddler even to our pre teens and throughout our adolescents and adulthood lives. Its a non-stop progress, the digital age however is putting this in danger and maybe humans will slow down in evolution. This will definitely pose a problem later on in life and we will look back on this. Whatever the case is reinventing yourself will make a person better or it can make a person worse, it really is up to the person and how they deal with the changes in life. I know for myself I adapted to the computer with ease and now it's an everyday necessity.

4. "This article contains a lot of information about Facebook/Mark Zuckerberg. Contrast this information with the impression of Mr. Zuckerberg that you got from watching "The Social Network." The information in this article puts a negative reputation on Facebook creator Mark Zuckerberg. It painted an image that he does not care about peoples privacy, I believe that Mark Zuckerberg is just trying to make his company more interactive than it already is however he is running into a privacy battle. While reading the article I read that the Facebook privacy policy is longer than the U.S. Constitution. In the movie *The Social Network*, which also portrays Mark Zuckerberg in a negative light, Mark Zuckerberg is a Harvard undergrad who builds his multi billion dollar company off a website that rates women on their looks. In the movie he gets a lot of criticism from the women which mimics the way he is being treated in real life, with much scrutiny. Also in the movie Mark Zuckerberg is known as a smart alec who can prove anyone with his intellectual capabilities. In real life Mark Zuckerberg does not do that however many of the court scenes Mark Zuckerberg did indeed say which puts him as an antagonist at times. In the article Mark Zuckerberg has no way in defending himself, the writer of the article puts Mark Zuckerberg against the wall and calls him out on everything that is negative about hos company's decision on its privacy policy. Mr. Zuckerberg in the film was able to defend himself in a way that would confuse many people and he did a great job on it. He is simply gifted intellectually.

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